

Attention: Physical Therapist Assistant Applicants
Important Notice

Note: Under section 448.52 of the Wisconsin Statutes, Physical Therapist Assistants are provided with title protection only.

We understand that our communication of March 19, 2004, may have caused some confusion. **To clarify, if your PTA license application is still pending on April 1st, you may continue to work but you may only work under the direct, on-premises supervision of a licensed physical therapist, and you must not call yourself a physical therapist assistant or represent yourself as being one.**

By law, effective April 1, 2004, "No person may designate himself or herself as a physical therapist assistant, use or assume the title "physical therapist assistant," or append to the person's name the letters "P.T.A." or any other title, letters, or designation that represents or may tend to represent the person as a physical therapist assistant unless the person is licensed as a physical therapist assistant under this subchapter." See section 448.52, Wis. Stats.

So again, if you do not have a PTA license on April 1, 2004, you may continue to work but you may only work under the direct, on-premises supervision of a licensed physical therapist, and you must not call yourself a physical therapist assistant or represent yourself as being one. You must also avoid using stationary, business cards, or any other items that indicate you are a physical therapist assistant. Once your PTA license has been granted, you may begin working under the general supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

If you have received this notice, your application for a physical therapy assistant license was not complete as of March 25, 2004. If you wish to check the current status of your application, please go to our website at www.drl.wi.gov. Once we have received and reviewed all of the required information, your license will be issued within five (5) business days, provided no further review is necessary. Further reviews may include, but are not limited to, applicants who have a criminal conviction or a tax delinquency.

We apologize for any confusion there may have been over this issue. We trust this will clarify the manner in which you may work until receiving an actual license.

If you have any further questions about this, please contact us by email at web@drl.wi.state.us or by phone at (608) 261-7931, Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thank you.